

## Claims

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A method of reconciling financial transactions,  
comprising:  
receiving a first statement of financial transactions  
generated according to a first set of rules;  
providing a second statement using a second set of rules  
10 consistent with the first set of rules used to generate the  
first statement; and  
comparing the second statement to the first statement to  
identify discrepancy between the first statement and the second  
statement.
- 15 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of comparing the  
second statement to the first statement includes comparing a  
first value from the first statement with a second value from  
the second statement to determine a difference between the  
20 first value and the second value.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein the step of comparing the  
second statement to the first statement further includes  
identifying causation of the discrepancy between the first  
25 statement and the second statement.
4. The method of claim 3 wherein the step of identifying  
causation of the discrepancy between the first statement and  
the second statement includes evaluating a list of possible  
30 errors.
5. The method of claim 1 further including instituting  
correction action upon identifying discrepancy between the  
first statement and the second statement.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein the first statement is received from a credit card association.

5 7. The method of claim 1 wherein the second set of rules is compiled from the first set of rules such that the second statement simulates the first statement and generates similar results given similar data input.

10 8. The method of claim 7 wherein the second statement is generated by a third party service provider.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein the second statement is generated on a per transaction basis.

15 10. A method of performing account reconciliation of financial transactions, comprising:

receiving a first statement of financial transactions generated according to a first set of rules;

20 providing a second statement using a second set of rules;

comparing the second statement to the first statement to identify discrepancy between the first statement and the second statement; and

25 determining causation of the discrepancy between the first statement and the second statement.

30 11. The method of claim 10 wherein the step of comparing the second statement to the first statement includes comparing a first value from the first statement with a second value from the second statement to determine a difference between the first value and the second value.

12. The method of claim 10 wherein the step of determining causation of the discrepancy between the first statement and

the second statement includes evaluating a list of possible errors.

5 13. The method of claim 10 further including instituting correction action upon identifying discrepancy between the first statement and the second statement.

10 14. The method of claim 10 wherein the second set of rules is consistent with and compiled from the first set of rules such that the second statement simulates the first statement and generates similar results given similar data input.

15 15. The method of claim 10 wherein the second statement is generated on a per transaction basis.

20 16. A credit card processing system, comprising a data processing center having a communication link to a credit card association to receive a first statement of credit card transactions generated using a first set of rules, wherein the data processing center generates a second statement using a second set of rules consistent with the first set of rules used to generate the first statement and compares the second statement to the first statement to identify discrepancy between the first statement and the second statement.

25 17. The credit card processing system of claim 16 wherein the data processing center identifies causation of the discrepancy between the first statement and the second statement.

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18. The credit card processing system of claim 17 wherein the data processing center identifies the causation of the discrepancy between the first statement and the second statement by evaluating a list of possible errors.

19. The credit card processing system of claim 16 wherein the data processing center recommends correction action upon identifying discrepancy between the first statement and the second statement.

20. The credit card processing system of claim 16 wherein the second set of rules is compiled from the first set of rules such that the second statement simulates the first statement and generates similar results given similar data input.

21. A computer based system for reconciling financial transactions, comprising:

means for receiving a first statement of financial transactions generated according to a first set of rules;

means for providing a second statement using a second set of rules consistent with the first set of rules used to generate the first statement; and

means for comparing the second statement to the first statement to identify discrepancy between the first statement and the second statement.

22. The computer based system of claim 21 further including means for identifying causation of the discrepancy between the first statement and the second statement.

23. The computer based system of claim 21 further including means for instituting correction action upon identifying discrepancy between the first statement and the second statement.

24. The computer based system of claim 21 wherein the second  
set of rules is compiled from the first set of rules such that  
the second statement simulates the first statement and  
5 generates similar results given similar data input.